

Message Text

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ORIGIN EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12

AID-20 COME-00 EB-11 FRB-02 TRSE-00 XMB-07 OPIC-12

CIEP-02 LAB-06 SIL-01 OMB-01 IO-12 SNM-02 IGA-02

BNDE-00 STR-08 SCEM-02 INT-08 /177 R

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4/16/73 EXT. 21741

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EA/ TB: JBDDEXTER

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY RANGOON

CINCPAC

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CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: PFOR, BM, US

SUBJ: SECRETARY' S FOREIGN POLICY REPORT

1. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF BURMA SECTION OF SECRETARY' S
1972 REPORT, TO BE RELEASED PUBLICLY ON APRIL 19, 1973.

QUOTE: OUR RELATIONS WITH BURMA CONTINUED TO BE CORDIAL
THOUGH LIMITED. WE HAVE NO MILITARY OR ECONOMIC
ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS THERE EXCEPT FOR MINOR RESIDUAL
ACTIVITIES TO COMPLETE ECONOMIC AID PROJECTS INITIATED
PREVIOUSLY. OUR MAJOR POLICY OBJECTIVES WITH BURMA ARE
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TO SUPPRESS ILLICIT NARCOTICS PRODUCTION AND TRAFFICKING
AND TO PROMOTE PARTICIPATION BY U. S. FIRMS IN BURMA'S
ECONOMIC AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS.

THE NARCOTICS PROBLEM IS A MAJOR FOCUS OF OUR ATTENTION
BECAUSE BURMA IS THE PRINCIPAL SOURCE OF ILLICIT
NARCOTICS IN SOUTHEAST ASIA. IT IS A DIFFICULT PROBLEM
FOR THE BURMESE GOVERNMENT TO SOLVE, GIVEN THE FACT THAT
MOST OPIUM GROWING AND TRAFFICKING OCCURS IN PARTS OF
NORTHERN AND EASTERN BURMA OCCUPIED BY INSURGENT GROUPS
WHOSE PRESENCE SERIOUSLY HAMPERS GOVERNMENT SUPPRESSION
EFFORTS. NONETHELESS, WE HAVE MADE SOME PROGRESS IN
HELPING THE BURMESE GOVERNMENT COPE WITH THE PROBLEM.

WE WERE GRATIFIED TO OBSERVE THE GROWING BURMESE INTEREST
IN EXPANDING COOPERATION IN NARCOTICS CONTROLS WITH
REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS. THE BURMESE
GOVERNMENT, FOR INSTANCE, HAS AGREED TO RECEIVE A
U. N. MISSION TO HELP WITH A CROP SUBSTITUTION PROJECT.
WE HOPE THAT THIS TYPE OF COOPERATION WILL INCLUDE MORE
EFFECTIVE COLLABORATION BETWEEN BURMESE AND THAI
AUTHORITIES TO STOP TRAFFICKING FROM BURMA INTO
THAILAND.

THE POTENTIAL FOR U. S. PRIVATE INVESTMENT IN AND TRADE
WITH BURMA IS LIMITED. U. S. AND OTHER FOREIGN PRIVATE
INVESTMENT IN THAT COUNTRY IS EFFECTIVELY EXCLUDED BY
BURMESE GOVERNMENT POLICY. PETROLEUM APPEARS TO HOLD
THE GREATEST POSSIBILITY FOR FOREIGN PARTICIPATION.
THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE AND OUR EMBASSY IN RANGOON ARE
MAKING EFFORTS TO PROMOTE PARTICIPATION BY U. S. FIRMS
IN BURMESE GOVERNMENT PETROLEUM PROJECTS AND IN OTHER
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS. END QUOTE.

2. SEPTTEL WILL COVER COMMENTS ELSEWHERE IN REPORT ON
MATTERS OF GENERAL REGIONAL INTEREST.

3. FOR OBVIOUS REASONS IT WAS NOT POSSIBLE TO INCLUDE
REFERENCE TO LATEST GUB INITIATIVE RE PETROLEUM
EXPLORATION. ROGERS

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts:
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 17 APR 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973STATE071632
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: AEBERGESEN: DME
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: n/a
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: SECSTATE WASHDC
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730446/aaaaisds.tel
Line Count: 108
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ORIGIN EA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 14 NOV 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <14-Nov-2001 by martinml>; APPROVED <22 FEB 2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> srp 980123
Subject: SECRETARY'S FOREIGN POLICY REPORT
TAGS: PFOR, BM, US
To: CINCPAC
RANGOON
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005